Accumulation of coal stocks in pitheads

23. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY:
SHRI SOM PAL:

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge stocks of coal have accumulated at the pitheads;

(b) if so, what are the details theref alongwith the reasons thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken to reduce or liquidate these stocks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) and (b) The pithead coal stocks in Coal India Limited and Singareni Collieries Company Limited, as on 30-6-1993, were 42.40 million tonnes (provisional). Main reasons for accumulation of coal stocks are as under:—

(i) A minimum level of coal stock has to be built up by the coal companies so that there is no disruption in supply of coal to the major consumers during adverse weather conditions, heavy absenteeism etc.

(ii) There is a mismatch between production and transport capacities in some of the coal producing areas.

(iii) Tendency of end-users to indicate higher demand/non-lifting of coal by them as per their initial projections.

(c) Steps being taken to clear the accumulated stocks are:—

(i) Close monitioring of despatches by rail through interaction with Ministry of Railways.

(ii) Increased despatches by other captive modes like merry-go-round, ropeways, belt conveyors etc.

(iii) Since substantial accumulated stocks are available at the road linked collieries, consumers have been advised to draw coal by road.

(iv) To improve the availability of coal to consumers, schemes for liberalised sale of coal have been introduced.

Assessment of demand for coal

24. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry prpepares a comparative position of supplies of coal made to important sectors with reference to the assessed demands;

(b) if so, how much of these assessed demands have been estimated for various sectors in terms of quality and quantity;

(c) what is the criteria for preparation of such assessed demands; and

(d) whether it is a fact that these demands have been very unrealistic during the year 1992-93, in certain sectors like soft coke, brick kilns etc. and if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA): (a) to (d) Sector-wise demands for coal are assessed by the Planning Commission based on the consumption pattern in the previous years and also on the production targets fixed for each sonsuming sector. Following table shows sector-wise demand vis-a vis actual supply of coal during the years 1991-92 and 1992-93.

Consuming Sector	1991-92 Demand	1991-92 Actual supply	1991-92 Percentage satisfaction	1992-93 Demand	1992-93 Actual supply	1992-93 Percentage satisfaction
Steel	33.70	31.33*	93.0	35.10	32.13*	91.05
Power	142.00	134.71	94.9	147.10	146.77	99.8
	(3.00)	(2.40)	(80.0)	(2.90)	(2.47)	(85.2)
Railways	4.70	4.46	94.9	4.00	3.22	80.5
Cement	13.10	9.97	76.1	14.10	10.73	76.1
Fertilizer	4.00	4.31	107.8	4.00	4.53	113.3
Soft Coke	2.50	0.97	38.8	4.40	0.63	14.3
Export	1.00	0.12	12.0	0.50	0.09	18.0
BRK/Other ; . . .	40.00	39.61	99.0	45.00	39.31	87.4
	(2.00)			(2.40)		
Colliery Consumption .	4.00	4.11	102.8	3.90	3.99	102.3
Total :	245.00	229.64	93.7	258.10	241.00	93.5
	(5.00)	(2.40)	(48.0)	(5.30)	(2.47)	(46.6)

*Includes imported coal.

figures in brackets indicate middlings.

It is seen from the above data that assessed demands for BRK/Other consumers and soft coke have been stepped up substantially dnring 1992-93.

अच्छी किस्म के कोयले का उत्पादन

25. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव** : क्या **कोयला मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अच्छी किस्म के कोयले के उत्पादन में लगातार कमी हो रही है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान अच्छी किस्म के कोयले का कुल कितना उत्पादन हुआ है ; और

(ग) अच्छी किस्म के कोयले का उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा किये गये प्रयासों का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

कोयला मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अजीत कुमार पांजा) : (क) और (ख) कई वर्षों से कोयला के उत्पादन मिश्रण की गुणवत्ता में गिरावट इस कारण आई है क्योंकि विद्युत उत्पादन के लिए कोयले की बढ़ती हुई मांग को देखते हुए निम्न ग्रेड के कोयले का उत्पादन किए जाने के लिए अनेक नई कोयला खानें खोली गई हैं । इसके परिणामस्वरूप ऐसे ग्रेड के कोयले का उत्पादन बेहतर ग्रेड के कोयले के उत्पादन की तुलना में काफी अधिक है । पिछले 3 वर्षों के दौरान उच्च ग्रेड के